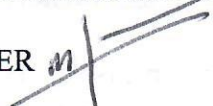


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 24, 2016

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CENTRAL ALEXANDRIA TRAFFIC STUDY

This memorandum is intended to provide Council with an update on the City's response to concerns about increased traffic and traffic diversion to neighborhoods in central Alexandria, specifically the Taylor Run Civic Association, Clover College Park Civic Association, Seminary Hill Association, and the Seminary Ridge Association areas.

In 2015, staff performed a small-scale traffic analysis for these neighborhoods, four community meetings were held, and in October 2015, staff conducted a survey to gain feedback on potential mitigation measures. The survey, which received 575 responses, demonstrated little public support for access restrictions from West Taylor Run Parkway to Telegraph Road, and little public support for other access restrictions from Janney's Lane into the Clover College Park and Taylor Run neighborhoods, and as a result, these potential changes were put on hold. Public outreach and results of the survey are summarized through a December 7, 2015 West Taylor Run Public Meeting and presentation to the community here:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/localmotion/info/default.aspx?id=90314>

Despite lack of support for traffic mitigation measures, significant concerns from the community about traffic diversion remain, and the communities have requested that the City conduct a more comprehensive study to examine where the traffic is coming from and going to, and what neighborhood streets are being used to avoid congestion on arterial roadways.

In response to these requests, staff has begun the process to conduct a comprehensive traffic study which will examine traffic volumes, speeds, and traffic origins and destinations in the Seminary Hill, Seminary Ridge, Clover College Park, and Taylor Run Civic Associations areas. This traffic study was outside of the T&ES work plan for fiscal year 2017, however, given the concerns raised about the need for data regarding traffic to provide future solutions, and safety concerns, staff is actively working on this effort.

Staff has requested that each civic association involved - Seminary Hill, Seminary Ridge, Clover College Park, and Taylor Run - provide two representatives to sit on a group to provide public input as the study is developed and conducted. Two members are requested from each civic association to provide equal representation from each association. The first meeting will be held on July 7, at

7:00 PM at Douglas MacArthur School. The goal of this meeting is gain input from the group on the study data collection for the fall of 2016. After the City has collected data this fall, the group will meet in late fall of 2016 to review initial themes seen from the data as well as review any small-scale mitigation measures, such as signal changes, signs, enforcement, and give input on those measures. If not resolved in the second meeting, a third meeting may be held in the winter of 2017 to get input on next steps in terms of the small-scale mitigation measures. It is important to note that larger-scale infrastructure improvements would need to be considered through the City's Transportation Master Plan, which is scheduled to be updated in FY 2018.

It estimated that the study will cost approximately \$250,000 and will be funded from the CIP.

If Council has questions or concerns, please contact Carrie Sanders, Acting Deputy Director of Transportation, T&ES, at carrie.sanders@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4088.

cc: Emily A. Baker, Deputy City Manager
Yon Lambert, Director, Transportation & Environmental Services
Karl Moritz, Director, Planning & Zoning